

612.41024X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KOHLER et al

Serial No.:

Filed: January 8, 2002

For: System And Method Intended For Thermal  
Insulation Of A Pipe With Vegetable Foam

Group:

Examiner:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 8, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application and prior to calculation  
of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said volume of vegetable  
foam is solubilized by an aqueous fluid so as to allow free pulling of said internal  
enclosure.

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the average size of the  
particles is below 5 mm.

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said vegetable foam  
comprises at least : a flour and/or a non-gelatinized starch, a plasticizer, possibly